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March 17, 2004 LB 1083

behavioral health authority shall be responsible, and then the words I'm taking out is "to the division," for the administration and coordination of public behavior. I believe that the way this is drafted, each region is responsible for its own destiny and I don't think it's accountable back to the division itself, which is part of actually the Health and Human Services administration. So their accountability is that they are directed by their authority to carry out responsibility. So I'm asking to have the words "to the division" eliminated from that particular section. And again, on page 10, I'm asking to have deleted another section that is in the same form and that is that the words begin, "require each regional behavioral health authority to establish and maintain a separate budget and administration," and I'd like to take out "and administration," because self-administering and they don't need to form another separate administration in order to carry this out. So I'm asking to have this bill amended in those two forms, taking out the word being accountable "to the division," and also to set up a separate administration. I would ask your consent to those changes. Senator Jensen, I would turn the balance of my time over to you, if you have a comment on my suggestions.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Jensen, you have a little over eight minutes.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I won't take that much time other than just to thank Senator Pederson for bringing this. He's absolutely right, it does concern the regions, and I appreciate him reading through the amendment to see this. And so I would certainly support Senator Pederson's amendment, FA1571. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Tyson.

SENATOR TYSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, first of all, will say that I will support the Pederson amendment, but having said that, I'll now go on and say what I punched my button for. In introducing LB 1083, Senator Jensen performed an action that used to be referred to as waving the bloody shirt, and he was referring to the Olmstead decision. Olmstead is a Commissioner